

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

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## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Friday, March 21, 2003  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE HOLDS FIRST MEETING WITH NEW COMMITTEE ON CAPITAL FINANCE

PHOENIX (Friday, March 21, 2003) – Superintendent Tom Horne will meet today at 2:00 p.m. with leaders from business, industry, education, and the legislature to discuss revisions to “Arizona Saves” in an attempt to reach a consensus that will produce a capital finance bill that can be passed by the legislature.

Since 1998, the general fund has been drained of over \$2.5 billion dollars for school construction and renovations.

“This new committee is the key to a successful resolution as to how to put money back in the classroom,” said Tom Horne. “With the leadership of this committee we should be able to reach an agreement on a bill that will shift over \$300 million per year of general fund dollars from construction to learning and other priorities, and avoid drastic education cuts.”

Members of the Superintendent’s Committee on Capital Finance include: Senator Mark Anderson; Senator Pete Rios; Capital Facilities Director Ed Boot; Ken Burdick, Greater Phoenix Leadership; James Bush, Phoenix Chamber; Susan Carlson, Arizona Business & Education Coalition; Panfilo Contreras, Executive Director Arizona School Boards Association; Speaker of the House Jake Flake; Dick Foreman, Public Affairs Southwest Gas; Dr. Thomas Heck, Superintendent Litchfield Elementary District; Dr. Robert Jones, Superintendent Madison Elementary; John Kelly, Intel; Kr. Gary Knox, Superintendent Crane Elementary; Paul Koehler, Office of the Governor; Penny Kotterman, Arizona Education Association; Representative John Lored; Mike Martinez, Superintendent Globe Unified; Kevin McCarthy, Arizona Tax Research Association; State Board of Education President, Dr. Wade McLean; Dr. John Pedicone, Superintendent Flowing Wells; Harold Porter, Executive Director, Arizona School Administrators; Judy Richardson, Ernest & Young; Barbara Robey, Arizona School Boards Association; Scott Thompson, President, Arizona Association of School Business

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Officials; John Wright, Arizona Education Association; and Jim Zaharis, Education Director, Greater Phoenix Leadership.

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